

Woodstock Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency

Regular Meeting-Minutes

MONDAY, September 13, 2021

WOODSTOCK TOWN HALL – Meeting Room 1

I. Chairman Mark Parker called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: Mark Parker, William Rewinski, Marla Butts, Stuart Peaslee (Alternate)

Members Absent: N/A Quorum: Yes

Others Present: Land Use Administrator Ashley Stephens, Acting Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

Members of the Public: Mr. and Mrs. Rancourt

III. Appointment of Alternates (if necessary): Stuart Peaslee was seated

IV. Action on minutes of previous meeting:

Motion Mark Parker seconded by Marla Butts to approve the minutes of the 08-02-2021 IWWA regular meeting. After review, the Minutes were approved with revisions (see below), carrying unanimously.

V. Pending Applications: 06-21-05 Ryan Sansoucy – 72 Indian Spring Road – Adding Beach Sand: *Marla Butts, seconded by William Rewinski, made a motion to approve the application 06-21-05: modify the withdrawal of the construction of any retaining wall, but maintain grading and stabilization of soil, installation of subsurface drains to a constructed dry well, and the stockpiling of beach sand in the Upland Area, to be spread in Witches Woods about eight feet beyond the high-water line. Motion passed unanimously.*

VI. New Applications: 08-21-07 D. H. Copeland Builders – 29 Loyola Road – new house with activities within the ~~UPA~~ Upland Review Area: Marla Butts, seconded by William Rewinski, made a motion to approve application 08-21-07 D. H. Copeland – 29 Loyola Road – new house with activities within the ~~UPA~~ Upland Review Area to be processed as a Wetlands Agent sign off. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Preliminary Discussion: There was discussion *with Engineer Daniel Blanchette, J&D Civil Engineers LLC, regarding the pending application to be filed by Christopher Mark, 450 Brickyard Road, to dredge the ~~moat~~ pond on his property.*

VIII. Administrative Business:

- 72 Indian Spring Road – For the removal of 6 dead trees in the ~~UPA~~ Upland Review Area due to gypsy moth damage.

- 49 Crooked Trail Extension – For the removal of 3 dead oak trees in the ~~UPA~~ Upland Review Area due to gypsy moth damage.

V. Pending Applications: none

VI. New Applications:

a. 08-21-09 Woodstock Academy 150 Route 169 – modification of existing special permit use to expand parking area at the Loos Center for the Arts:

-Marla Butts: only a small portion of the proposed work will be in the Upland Review Area. It appears to be a Wetlands Agent sign-off application, which will then go will go to Planning and Zoning for discussion of the Special Permit. She noted that the engineer is not present; she would have inquired if the Academy or staff have experience with the proposed “swirl technology” since, if there is failure, the proposed location under the paved parking area would require excavation. Planning and Zoning could inquire about an alternative which would not bind them to the gallery system located under the pavement. She referenced the sub-surface stormwater management system installed at the Putnam YMCA as an option. The Land Use Administrator will follow up.

Motion M. Butts seconded by W. Rewinski that application 08-21-09 Woodstock Academy 150 Route 169 be processed as a Wetlands Agent sign-off carried unanimously.

Motion M. Butts seconded by W. Rewinski, regarding 08-21-09 Woodstock Academy 150 Route 169, that the Land Use Agent convey to the PZC that the IWWA has concern with the design and future maintenance of “swirl technology” in this situation and the possibility of failure, the IWWA suggesting that the Planning and Zoning Commission examine other alternatives with less future maintenance concerns, carried unanimously.

b. 09-21-10 -131 Laurel Hill Drive- David Rancourt – remove damaged retaining wall on lake and replace with sand fill.

-Mr. Rancourt: Creative Exteriors (contractor) provided sketches/schematics. The proposal is to remove 30 linear feet of the wall and replace it with 20 linear feet of sand mixed with soil (15 yards), creating a small beach area. Marla Butts was able to show IWWC Members a MapGeo image of the site as well.

-The lake draw-down is scheduled for mid-October; ideally, this project will take place during the that time period.

– Marla Butts: the cement retaining wall at this address is damaged due to inadequate drainage behind it, freezing having created pressure, leading to cracking.

-Mark Parker notes this proposal results in a reduction of the footprint.

- Marla Butts suggests to the owners the use of a wattle rather than silt fence during construction; the straw stuffing is just released and spread after project completion.

After review of the application:

Motion Marla Butts seconded by W. Rewinski that application 09-21-10 (131 Laurel Hill Drive, David Rancourt) be converted to a Jurisdictional Ruling, allowing for removal and replacement of the damaged wall with sand, and deemed a Use Permitted as of Right, provided the work occurs during the lake drawn down, carried unanimously.

Motion Marla Butts seconded by W. Rewinski that the application fee for 09-21-10 (131 Laurel Hill Drive) be refunded, as a legal notice is not required to be published, carried unanimously.

VII. Preliminary Discussion: none

VIII. Administrative Business:

-At the August IWWA meeting, the decision was made to send a letter to the First Selectman to ask that Janet Blanchette at J&D Civil Engineering, LLC or another engineer look at alternatives to the Paine Road drainage issue which is impacting abutters. Over time, changes to Paine Road have caused water flow to change direction; now a cross-culvert fills at the shoulder with materials. The purpose of the letter is to request from the Selectmen authorization for review and possible expansion of the scope of the engineering to address the problem in the area that contributes to the existing waterflow situation. The letter has been reviewed by the Members and final edits/suggestions are underway. The document will go to the Land Use Administrator for distribution to the Chair for his signature.

– By-laws discussion: At the June 17, 2019 modifications to the By Laws were approved but have not fully been merged into the official document; the text from those minute (Section 9, page 4) needs to be inserted. A key point is that the Regular Monthly IWWA meeting is officially returned to the first Monday of the month. Marla Butts will try to locate an electronic version for distribution.

IX. Citizen's comments: none

X. Adjournment:

Motion Marla Butts seconded by Stuart Peaslee to adjourn carried unanimously.

Chair Mark Parker adjourned the meeting at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy Durst, Recording Secretary *Dorothy Durst*

These minutes have not yet been approved by the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency. Please refer to next month's meeting minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.